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IN THE

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(or(s): John McEntee et al.

Serial No.: 09/775,375 **Examiner:** 

Filing Date: Jan. 31, 2001

Group Art Unit:

Title:

JAN 2 1 2003

Automation-Optimized Microarray Package

**COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS** Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or (Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)

( ) under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:

( ) Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or

( ) a \$180.00 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or (After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)

( ) under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:

( ) Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and

( ) a \$180.00 processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p).

(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account 50-1078 the sum of \$0.00 At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449. References identified with an asterisk (\*) were . now U. S. Patent No. disclosed in Patent Application No.\_\_\_\_\_ filed and, as such, copies thereof are not included pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.98(d).

( ) A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individuals(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: Jan. 16, 2003

Typed Name: Joanne Bourguignon

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Respectfully submitted,

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